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Letter dated 18 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Permanent Mission of Spain has received the summary report of the exploratory hearing on Sierra Leone diamonds, which was held on 31 July and 1 August 2000 at United Nations Headquarters in New York (S/2000/1150). The report contains a number of statements by Mr. Patrick Smith, in which he refers to Gibraltar as a country. With regard to that description, my delegation wishes to make it clear that Gibraltar is a Non-Self-Governing Territory administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which is subject to the process of decolonization and over which Spain maintains a claim of sovereignty.

I should be grateful if this letter could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencia F. **Arias**

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